IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims provided below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An ink set for inkjet recording for forming a black image portion in a color image with a black ink and a color ink, wherein the black ink comprises ~~at least~~ cationic or anionic self-dispersible carbon black and the color ink comprises ~~at least~~ a ~~substance~~ self-dispersible pigment having an opposite polarity to that of the self-dispersible carbon black.

2. (Currently Amended) The ink set for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the self-dispersible carbon black is cationic and the color ink comprises at least an anionic ~~substance~~ self-dispersible pigment.

3. (Currently Amended) The ink set for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the black ink comprises from about ~~carbon black is contained in an amount of~~ 0.1 to 10 % by mass carbon black ~~relative to a total amount of the ink containing the black ink~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The ink set for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the black ink and/or color ink contain a surfactant, ~~and the surfactant is present in an amount of 0.001 to 5 % by mass relative to the amount of the black ink and the amount of the color ink, respectively~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The ink set for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the black ink comprises a compound represented by formula (1):

R-O-XnH (1)

wherein R is a functional group having 4 to 8 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, an alkenylphenyl group and a cycloalkyl group; X is an oxyethylene group or an oxypropylene group; and n is an integer from 1 to 4.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for inkjet recording comprising:
recording a color image in accordance with recording signals by ejecting from an orifice a black ink

and a color ink, wherein the black ink comprises ~~at least~~ cationic or anionic self-dispersible carbon black and the color ink comprises ~~at least~~ a substance having an opposite polarity to that of the self-dispersible carbon black, and wherein a black image portion in the color image is formed with the black ink and the color ink, and a time lag between ejecting of the black ink and ejecting of the color ink is 20 ms or less.

7. (Currently Amended) The method for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 6, wherein the self-dispersible carbon black is cationic and the color ink comprises at least an anionic substance.

8. (Currently Amended) The method for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 6, wherein the order of ejecting the black ink and ejecting the color ink changes.

9. (Currently Amended) The method for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 6, wherein the black ink comprises from about ~~carbon black is contained in an amount of~~ 0.1 to 20 % by mass carbon black ~~relative to a total amount of the ink containing the black ink~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The method for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 6, wherein the black ink and/or the color ink contain a surfactant, ~~and the surfactant is present in an amount of 0.001 to 5% by mass relative to the amount of the black ink and the amount of the color ink, respectively~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The method for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 6, wherein the black ink comprises a compound represented by formula (1):

R-O-XnH (1)

wherein R is a functional group having 4 to 8 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, an alkenylphenyl group and a cycloalkyl group; X is an oxyethylene group or an oxypropylene group; and n is an integer from 1 to 4.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for inkjet recording for forming a color image comprising: ~~at least~~ an ink cartridge for ejecting a black ink and another ink cartridge for ejecting a color ink, wherein the black ink comprises ~~at least~~ cationic or anionic self-dispersible carbon black and the color

ink comprises ~~at least~~ a substance having an opposite polarity to that of the self-dispersible carbon black, and wherein a black image portion in the color image is formed with the black ink and the color ink, and a time lag between ejecting of the black ink and ejecting of the color ink is 20 ms or less.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 12, wherein the self-dispersible carbon black is cationic and the color ink comprises at least an anionic substance.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 12, wherein recording is carried out by reciprocal scanning of the ink cartridge for ejecting a black ink and the another ink cartridge for ejecting a color ink, and the order of ejecting the black ink and ejecting the color ink changes by the reciprocal scanning.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 12, wherein the carbon black is contained in an amount of 0.1 to 20% by mass relative to a total amount of the ink containing the black ink.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 12, wherein the black ink and/or the color ink contain a surfactant, ~~and the surfactant is present in an amount of 0.001 to 5 % by mass relative to the amount of the black ink and the amount of the color ink, respectively~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for inkjet recording ~~according to~~ of claim 12, wherein the black ink comprises a compound represented by formula (1):

R-O-XnH (1)

wherein R is a functional group having 4 to 8 carbon atoms selected form the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, an alkenylphenyl group and a cycloalkyl group; X is an oxyethylene group or an oxypropylene group; and n is an integer from 1 to 4.

18. (New) The method of claims 4, 10, or 16, wherein the surfactant is present in an amount of from about 0.001 to 5 % by mass relative to the amount of the black ink and the amount of the color ink, respectively.